

# **News**

## **Macomb County Board of Commissioners**



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### **“Meet Me on the Trail” Promotes County Trails, Recreation, Biking on May 22**

Macomb County, in conjunction with Shelby Township and area bicycle shop owners, is inviting everyone out on May 22 for “Meet Me on the Trail,” — an event to celebrate Macomb County’s growing biking/walking/running trail system.

The event takes place rain or shine from 9 a.m. to noon, at Rainbow Plaza (on the southeast corner of 25 Mile & Shelby Road) in Shelby Township.

Biking/walking/running enthusiasts and their families can take advantage of a myriad of fun things, including: free bicycle inspection/tune up by bike shop professionals, a 10-mile bike ride (helmet required) or a 3-5 mile walk/run, the latest bicycle equipment on display, information from Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures; Huron-Clinton Metro Parks; Michigan Mountain Biking Association and more, and free refreshments and giveaways. The first 200 people to hit the trails will also get a free t-shirt for their participation in this first-ever county-wide event.

Two area students (Sarah Flanigan of Davis Junior High in Sterling Heights and Devin Grasley of Armada Middle School) will also be presented with new bikes from Hamilton Bicycles & Outfitters in Richmond and Macomb Bike & Fitness in Warren, for winning the recent “Experience the Trails” contest open to 6-8th graders. The poster and essay contest posed the questions: “How do trails promote good health?” and “What can be seen on the trails?”

During the event, local bicycle shop owners will be on hand to answer questions about bike maintenance and to explain the advantages of buying your bicycle from a specialized bicycle shop. (However, anyone who just wants to stroll and enjoy the trail scenery is welcome too!)

Participants will also get the chance to learn about the growing trail system in Macomb County, and the plans to complete a 70-mile loop which will link Metro Beach with Stoney Creek Metropark, Riverbends Park in Shelby Township and Sterling Heights’ Dodge and Freedom Hill parks.

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To date, 44 miles of the trail loop have been completed, with construction beginning in Utica and Harrison Township this summer, and Mt. Clemens, Shelby/Utica and New Baltimore in 2011. Last month, the Air National Guard and Air Force granted tentative approval for a bike path to run along 2.5 miles of the Selfridge Air National Guard Base shoreline, bringing the county closer to its goal of completing the trail in about three years.

“We are very happy to say that we will be able to offer waterfront access along that stretch for the first time ever,” said Commissioner Jim Carabelli, who co-chairs the Planning and Economic Development Committee and is helping to facilitate progress on the trail along with Commissioner Ed Bruley. “But one of the things we are proudest of is that we will be able to give the public such a great recreational asset at no additional cost to taxpayers — it’s funded by grants, donations and allocations from foundations.”

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